

**DATE:** February 26, 1999

**TO:** Waldo County teachers, guidance counselors, school administrators

**FROM:** Insert your name and title

**RE:** Building Bridges Class

As a member of the Casco Bay STW Partnership, I have helped organize an innovative program called *The Building Bridges Program* for educators in the Bath-Brunswick area. *The Building Bridges Program* is designed to bring teachers, guidance counselors and school administrators together with businesses so that educators might gain a better understanding of the needs of area employers and their expectations as related to the world of work.

The Maine Department of Labor and the Casco Bay Partnership sponsored the program in the Bath-Brunswick region, and about forty educators have participated in the two programs that have already occurred. Because of the enthusiasm of our local educators and the success of the program, the Department of Labor has asked that I initiate a similar program in Waldo County.

**The Building Bridges classes include:**

- An orientation to the business
- Time to engage in dialogue with Waldo County business representatives
- A tour of the facility
- An opportunity for the class to meet after the tour to talk about your impressions of the business and examine how to best prepare students for opportunities within these businesses
- Discussion of the Learning Results, economic development, etc. as they relate to our visits

**About the Building Bridges Program:**

- Discussion of the Learning Results, economic development, etc. as they relate to our visits
- The program will be co-sponsored by Maine Department of Labor & MVR #7
- **Free** for Waldo County educators
- Receive **2.4 CEUs** for participating
- Meet every Wednesday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the site to be visited

**Please notify (insert name) as soon as possible**, if interested in this exciting learning opportunity. Formal registration and more information, including employers to be visited, will follow. Call me at (insert phone number/e-mail address) if you have any questions or comments.

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